Amendments to Specification

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Referring to Fig. 1, the device 10 of the present invention is a protective electrical outlet device comprising three major parts; namely, a cover plate 12; a cover 14 that is held by the cover plate 12 and a slide plate 16 [(16] (not shown in Fig. 1) The cover plate replaces the usual plate that hides the wiring and permits the electrical socket or sockets to be flush with the plate and wall.

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Still referring to Fig. 3, the back of plate 12 has two alignment bosses 40 and 42 that keep the slide plate 16 aligned. The slide plate 16 has openings 44 and 46 so that the slide plate 16 may be placed on the alignment bosses 40 and 42. The slide plate 16 is held on the bosses 40 and 42 by slide guide covers 48 and 50 so that the slide plate 16 may be easily moved from side-to-side on the bosses. The slide plate 16 has a lower male engagement finger [member] 45 and upper male engagement finger [member] 47 that when held by the bosses 40 and 42 are aligned with opening 25 and 27, respectively, in the cover plate 12. In the lower corner of slide plate 16 opposite the male engagement fingers [members] 45 and 47 is an elliptical slot 49. An elliptical safety latch 52 is affixed to the back of cover plate 12 such that when the elliptical shape of latch 52 matches elliptical slot 49 that slide plate 16 is in the position shown in Fig. 4.

Referring to Fig. 4 and Fig. 5, the cover 14 is affixed to cover plate 12 as shown in Fig. 4. The slide members 36 and 38 on the rear of cover 14 slide in

the channels in the front of cover plate 12. The cover is positioned where desired to cover one or more electrical sockets of the cover plate 12. As shown in Fig. 5, the safety latch 52 is turned with a screw driver inserted into the head of the screw on the outside of cover plate 12 and the latch 52 is moved to the position as shown that moves sliding plate 16 to the right as viewed from the rear. The male engagement fingers [members] 45 and 47 pass through the openings 25 and 27 and male engagement finger [member] 47 will slide into a slot 37 of cover 14. It may require a slight raising or lowering of the cover 14 for the male engagement finger [member] 47 and slot 37 to be aligned. Once aligned and the latch 52 turned 90° from the position in Fig. 4, the cover 14 is made secure with the cover protecting one or more of the electrical sockets. If small children are involved, it may be desired to place the cover 14 such that all electrical sockets are protected, whereas, if animals are the cause of electrical lines being tampered with, then only the socket that have an electrical plug in the socket may be made secure.

Referring now to Fig. 6, on the front side of slide plate 16 is a handle means 60 that is placed in opening 62 of cover plate 12. The handle means 60 is used to move the slide plate 16 from the open to the secured position when male engagement finger [member] 47 of slide plate 16 is moved into slots 37 of the cover 14. The handle 60 is also used to remove the cover 14. Also illustrated in Fig. 6 is a flat cover 14 used when nothing is plugged into any of the electrical sockets. In Fig. 7 and 8, these figures illustrate that the cover 14 may have more than one design. Specifically, the covers of Fig. 7 may be a large

cover 14 for utility or larger cords or a small cover for telephone or small cords. The cover in Fig. 8 illustrates a cover 14 that has a plurality of openings in the surface for use with an air freshener plugged into an electrical socket or a night light